January 10, 2003

Date

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Signature

Iuliana Hermes

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January 10, 2003

QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP

liana Hermes

Attorney Docket No: 305J-900310US

Client Ref: SF2000-012

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Ilse Bartke et al.

Application No.: 09/529,369

Filed: April 8, 1998

For: NGF FOR THE PREVENTION OF

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** 

**DEMYELINATION IN THE NERVOUS** 

**SYSTEM** 

Examiner: Jon P. Wener

Art Unit: 1651

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION** 

REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED JAN 2 1 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please reconsider the Restriction Requirement mailed August 13, 2001 in light of the remarks below.

The following documents are submitted herewith:

- 1) Petition for Extension of Time;
- 2) A transmittal sheet
- 3) A receipt indication postcard.

## **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION**

In response to the Restriction Requirement of August 13, 2001, Applicants elect the claims of Group II, claims 7-11 and 16, with traverse.

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Applicants note that this application is a 371 national stage application of PCT/EP98/02029. Accordingly, the standards for restriction are those of "unity of invention" pursuant to PCT practice (MPEP at 1850). The Action correctly suggests that unity of invention applies, but then incorrectly supposes that the technical feature for unity is simply NGF. This is not correct. The relevant technical feature in the pending claims is the treatment of diseases in which demylination of nerve fibers occurs, with NGF and related compounds. Accordingly, the restriction is premised upon an incorrect reading of the technical features of the claims.

Applicants further note that the claims of the international application were examined together, supporting the fact that unity of invention is found in the claims. Moreover, given that the claims were co-examined without any undue difficulty on the part of the international office, the provisions of MPEP § 803 (B) apply, i.e., because it has already been demonstrated that there is no undue burden for examination, the claims should be examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Alan Quine, J.D., Ph.D.

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